

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Control: 10342

Encl: 1 OCTOBER 13, 1948
1:20 PM

FROM: ROME

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 319, OCTOBER 13, 9 PM

PRIORITY

TOUSIERS REPORTED THIS MORNING'S MEDIA COMMENT ON PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AND QUOTATIONS TELETYPE AS REQUESTED 0010 253. THIS AFTERNOON'S MEDIA FOLLOWS SAME LINE. FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES PRIVATE AND OFFICIAL REACTION SO FAR:

GOVERNMENT -- PRIMIN TOLD SENATE TONIGHT (FULL TEXT BEING WIRED) HE WAS INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AND AFTER SUMMARIZING WHAT PRESIDENT SAID STATED ITALY ALWAYS OPPOSED CREATION NEW BASES WHICH WOULD THREATEN WORLD PEACE. SAID GOI IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH ITS ALLY IN BRINGING CASE TO UN AND US IN ITS POSITION WOULD HAVE FULL SUPPORT GOI. ADDED UNDERSTOOD RUSSO FLYING TO HEAD ITALIAN DELEGATION UN. PRIMIN SAID FORMIN HAD MADE SIMILAR STATEMENT TO 2ND MEETING BRUSSELS TODAY. (PRIMIN EXPECTED REPEAT STATEMENT CHAMBER DEPUTIES LATER TONIGHT.) HEAD POWOFF UN SECTION TOLD EMBOFF "CONGRATULATIONS THIS IS WHAT YOUR FRIENDS HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR FOR LONG TIME". NAVAL OFFS AT NAVY MIN MADE SIMILAR COMMENTS TO NAVAL ATTACHE.

COMMUNISTS -- PCI CALLED MEETINGS 6:30 PM TODAY TO DISCUSS WHAT "ACTION" TO TAKE. INFERENCE IS DEMONSTRATIONS LIKELY TOMORROW (DAS REPORTS POLICE PREDICT DEMONSTRATIONS BY PCI AND LEFT WING OF PCI ROME AND GENOA POSSIBLY OTHER CITIES, PERHAPS BEGINNING TONIGHT. SURVEY OF CONSULATES AND LEGS AROUND ITALY REVEALS NO PRT NO DEMONSTRATIONS SO FAR EXCEPT VAVA CUBA SIGN PAINTED ON 1315 MILAN LAST NIGHT.)

SOCIALISTS

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44-38861, OCTOBER 13, 3 PM, FROM: ROME

LIBERALIST LEAD AUTONOMIST CLOSE TO LOMBARDI TOLD EMBROFF WHILE IN VENEZIA WHERE FBI MAJORITY WOULD STAND IF CONFLICT OCCURS, AND WOULD WISDOM QUARANTINE WHOSE REPERCUSSIONS UNFORESEEABLE. FBI AUTONOMISTS WOULD HAVE PREFERRED CONTINUE TALKING THINGS OVER IF COMMUNISTS. WIDE SECTORS PUBLIC OPINION UNLIKELY BELIEVE US STATEMENTS OR EVEN US PRODUCED EVIDENCE ABOUT ALLIED MISSILE BASES CUBA. BUT SAID FBI WOULD NOT BE MOVED AWAY FROM PRESENT COLLABORATION WITH GOV BY THIS MATTER AND HAD TAKEN STEPS PREVENT LEFT WING FBI FROM QUESTIONING GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT.

LIBERALIST LEAD VICE SEC. TOLD EMBROFF CUBAN ACTION "EXTREMELY DEFENSIVE" BUT NO ALTERNATIVE FOR US Faced WITH NUCLEAR MISSILES AT ITS DOORSTEP. THOUGHT US ACTION MIGHT RAISE PROBLEMS FOR US REL TO BASES OVERSEAS.

COMMENT: EXPERT FOR COMMUNISTS AND LEFT WING OF FBI AND RESERVATIONS FBI AUTONOMISTS INDICATED ABOVE ITALIAN OPINION. APPEARED LARGELY FAVORABLE TO US SO FAR. MEDIA COMMENT LIMITED FIRST DAY BUT LIKELY BE MUCH MORE EXTENSIVE TOMORROW.

PAGE TWO.

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